

# MAHER – IPR POLICY

Doc No: MAHER/IPR/SOP/01

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## Preamble

Meenakshi Academy of Higher Education and Research is a Health Sciences University (MAHER) that cater to stakeholders in a responsible manner for the past 16 years. MAHER has carved a unique name for itself for providing high quality education, conducting cutting edge research as well as rendering state of the art health care services in all its constituent colleges. MAHER also acknowledges the importance of creating new knowledge not only through research but also to preserve the intellectual property arising out of one's mind. The MAHER's Invention Nurturing and Dissemination (MIND) Committee is a brainchild of this thought process created to nurture and protect the intellectual property of its faculty, research scholars, post graduates as well as undergraduate students.

## Intellectual Property Rights Policy of MAHER

- ❖ The Intellectual Property Rights Policy of MAHER is designed to serve as a rule book for future reference on issues pertaining to IPR. This policy is applicable for all full-time faculty, research scholars (part time as well as full time), post graduate students and under graduate students of MAHER (who all shall henceforth be referred as inventors). Further, this policy is applicable for all intellectual properties generated by faculty/research scholars/post graduates/undergraduates of MAHER including patents, copyrights, design registration and trademark (all of which will henceforth be referred to as intellectual property or inventions).

This policy is created with the following objectives:

- ❖ To protect and preserve the inventions and other intellectual property created by the faculty, research scholars, post graduate and undergraduate students of MAHER
- ❖ To provide a framework by which inventions and other intellectual property created by the faculty, research scholars, post graduate and undergraduate students of MAHER is processed prior to potential filing of application
- ❖ To provide technical and legal support to the faculty, research scholars, post graduate and undergraduate students of MAHER for filing of IPR application with the office of

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the controller general of Patents, designs and trademarks, and its subsequent proceedings

- ❖ To foster a conducive environment for creating intellectual property and recognize the inventor in an appropriate manner for his/her invention
- ❖ To provide guidelines for revenue sharing between MAHER and the inventor during technology transfer/commercialization of intellectual property created by the faculty, research scholars, post graduate and undergraduate students of MAHER.
- ❖ To settle any disputes pertaining to IPR when multiple stakeholders are involved in an intellectual property created by the faculty, research scholars, post graduate and undergraduate students of MAHER
- ❖ To improve the overall quality of Intellectual property created by the faculty, research scholars, post graduate and undergraduate students of MAHER thereby bring laurels to MAHER, its constituent colleges, departments, faculty and students themselves.

## **MIND COMMITTEE (MAHER's Invention Nurturing and Dissemination Committee)**

MIND committee comprises of the following

**Chairman-** Research Director

**Member secretary-** Academic officer

**Legal expert**

**Two external experts**

**One nominee each from constituent colleges**

**Three student representatives** (one UG, One PG and one Research scholar).

The committee will serve as for a term of 3 years. The Vice Chancellor of MAHER shall have the discretionary powers to constitute MIND committee and can add/remove/replace any member of the MIND committee as and when required.

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All faculty, research scholars, post graduates and undergraduate students of MAHER are expected to go through the MIND committee for filing an application for their intellectual property. MIND committee will convene as and when application is received in order to give the inventor a head-start in filing the IPR application without any delay.

The role of the committee is to

- ❖ Receive applications from potential inventors and perform initial screening for novelty and industrial application when requested by the inventors
- ❖ Provide technical and legal support when required for the IPR application
- ❖ Help the inventor in filing the application at the appropriate office
- ❖ Follow-up of the application
- ❖ Negotiate terms with potential buyers at the time of technology transfer or commercialization
- ❖ To settle any disputes between the inventors when multiple stakeholders are involved.

## Responsibility of MAHER

Owning Intellectual Property is an incredible achievement and MAHER shall support its faculty, research scholars, Post graduates as well as undergraduates in creating new inventions and disseminating it to the general public through technology transfer and commercialization. MAHER will contribute to creating IPR by providing laboratory facilities, technical assistance to inventors and legal assistance during filing of IPR application. Owing to its contribution to the creation of IPR, MAHER will have a share in the revenue generated out of technology transfer and subsequent commercialization of invention. In the event of an invention being carried out in collaboration with other agencies/institutions, then according to the level of contribution, the ownership as well as revenue sharing will vary as per the agreement with the concerned institution.

## Responsibility of inventor(s)

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The inventor who is a faculty, research scholar, post graduate or undergraduate student shall approach the MIND committee with the relevant documents for potential filing of IPR. It will be the duty of the inventors to do the necessary documentation required for IPR filing and seek the advice of MAHER in this process. The inventors who use substantial amount of resources of MAHER in generation of the intellectual property should include MAHER in the revenue sharing and abide by the rules of the MIND committee. The MAHER will bear the cost of filing the IPR application. Further, the inventor should seek the permission and approval of the MIND committee prior to approaching an external agency for development of an intellectual property. Any intellectual property arising out of academic assignment to students (including research scholars, post graduates/undergraduates) will jointly belong to both MAHER as well as the student. Further, it is the duty of the inventors to do a thorough prior-art search prior to approaching the MIND committee to check for novelty and originality. The inventors are advised to restrain from displaying or disclosing details of their invention/publishing in journals/posting in social media until the registration number is obtained/published from the Patent office. This is to avoid compromising the novelty and originality of the invention.

## Policy on revenue sharing following technology transfer

In the event of an invention being commercialized, the revenue generated in the process will be shared by all the stakeholders including MAHER, inventors who are part of MAHER as well as any other agency providing significant contribution the invention. In cases wherein the invention involves only MAHER and the inventor who is part of the MAHER as a faculty/postgraduate/undergraduate student, revenue sharing will be based on 50% to former and 50% to latter. For those inventions in which there are multiple co-inventors, the revenue sharing will be based on a prior agreement between the co-inventors. In case of involvement of an outside agency, then revenue sharing shall be decided on a case-to-case basis. The inventor who are part of MAHER should however get prior permission from the MIND committee for involving an outside agency before approaching them in the invention process.

## Amendments to IPR policy

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MAHER reserves the rights to amend the IPR policy time to time. The changes will be put into effect after reaching consensus among members of MIND committee.

## **Conflict of Interest**

The inventors should disclose any conflict of interest with any potential buyers of the intellectual property at the time of commercialization. If the inventor or their immediate family is a stakeholder in the company of the potential buyers, then the same should be disclosed to the MIND committee.

## **Resolution of dispute on ownership of IPR**

In case there is any dispute between the inventors regarding the ownership of intellectual property or the revenue sharing, then the case shall be brought up for discussion in the MIND committee. The MIND committee's decision will be considered final and binding on all parties involved.

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